

VZCZCXYZ0015  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNO #0187 0811432  
ZNY SSSSS ZZH  
O 221432Z MAR 07  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0658  
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 0186  
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE 0564  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 0881  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEHBS/USNMR BRUSSELS BE PRIORITY

S E C R E T USNATO 000187

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR P, SCA, EAP, EUR/RPM, EUR/UBI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/21/2017

TAGS: [NATO](#) [PINS](#) [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [AF](#) [AS](#) [NL](#)

SUBJECT: DUTCH AT NATO OPTIMISTIC ABOUT AUSSIE SOF

REF: A. THE HAGUE (NOTAL) 488 B. SECSTATE 34078

(NOTAL) C. CANBERRA 329 (NOTAL)

Classified By: Ambassador Victoria Nuland, for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶11. (S) Dutch Ambassador to NATO, Herman Schaper, predicted March 20 that all issues related to the deployment of additional Australian SOF to Oruzgan province would be satisfactorily resolved March 21-22 during Dutch-Aussie CHOD talks in the Hague. Schaper confirmed that the Netherlands prefers to have the additional Aussies under ISAF, and hopes that creative proposals by SACEUR to make this possible would be acceptable to Canberra.

¶12. (S) If, however, C2 and ROE cannot be worked out to the Aussies' satisfaction, Schaper also confirmed that the Dutch would rather see the Aussies in Oruzgan under OEF than not at all. This had been confirmed in a phone call between the Foreign Ministers on March 20, and the Dutch would approach the CHOD talks in the spirit of ensuring the deployment happens in some form.

NULAND